



State of New Jersey

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

DIVISION OF EPIDEMIOLOGY, ENVIRONMENTAL AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

PO BOX 369

TRENTON, N.J. 08625-0369

CHRIS CHRISTIE
Governor

www.nj.gov/health

KIM GUADAGNO
Lt. Governor

MARY E. O'DOWD, M.P.H.
Commissioner

TO: All NJVFC and Adult Providers

FROM: New Jersey Vaccines for Children (VFC) Program

SUBJECT: Pentacel (DTaP-IPV-Hib) Shortage

DATE: September 28, 2012

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has provided additional details about the current Pentacel® (DTaP-IPV and Hib) vaccine shortage that is now anticipated to last through March 2013. While there will continue to be sufficient DTaP-containing vaccines available to ensure all eligible children can receive the five- dose series of DTaP, current Pentacel® allocations for Vaccines for Children (VFC) Programs will decrease significantly beginning in October.

Specifically, providers can expect to receive allocations that are approximately 20% of the amount of Pentacel® allocations they have been receiving since May 2012. Sanofi will make available increased amounts of single antigen vaccines to make up for the decrease in Pentacel®. In addition, CDC will not be limiting allocations of Sanofi Pasteur's DTaP, IPV, or Hib vaccines, which should enable providers to increase orders for these products in proportion to the decrease in Pentacel®. Of note, Sanofi Pasteur is maintaining order restrictions on their private orders for both Pentacel® and DTaP vaccines.

At this time, the NJ VFC Program has an ample supply of single antigen or alternative combination vaccines. Providers should not defer or delay vaccinating patients at the recommended ages. School vaccine mandates will remain in effect. The New Jersey Vaccine Preventable Disease Program will continue to monitor the situation.

Should you have any questions regarding the NJ VFC Program's Pentacel® allocations, please contact the program at 609-826-4862.